

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:(original claims)

1. An image scanner comprising:
an image sensor for optically scanning character data on a
5 document and importing the character data as image data,
an output for outputting the image data scanned by the image
sensor,
an input for inputting a result of character recognition of the
image data output from the output,
10 a display for displaying the result of character recognition input
at the input,
wherein the image scanner is allowed to move over the document
so as to specify any region to be recognized from among the
character data on the document and display a result of character
15 recognition within the specified region on the display so as to
enable to check a result of conversion of the scanned character
image on the document at hand.
2. The image scanner according to claim 1,
20 wherein the image scanner has a pointing device function for a
personal computer, and the output and the input are connected to
an input and an output of the personal computer respectively.
3. The image scanner according to claim 2,
25 wherein the image scanner is a scanner mouse having the pointing
device function.
4. The image scanner according to claim 3,
wherein the image scanner has a sensor circuit that utilizes a
30 positional signal of the mouse or a positional signal of the image
sensor as a positional signal of the scanner.
5. The image scanner according to claim 2,
wherein the image scanner is connected to the personal computer
35 via a high-speed bi-directional communication bus.
6. The image scanner according to claim 1,
wherein the image scanner comprises a determining means for

determining the result of character recognition displayed on the display,

wherein the result of character recognition within the specified region is displayed on the display in real time, and the starting position and end position for the character recognition displayed on the display in real time can be adjusted until determined by the determining means.

7. An optical character recognition system comprising an image scanner and a personal computer,

wherein the image scanner comprises:

an image sensor for optically scanning character data on a document and importing the character data as image data,

an output for outputting the image data scanned by the image sensor to the personal computer,

an input for inputting a result of character recognition of the image data output from the output to the personal computer, from the personal computer,

a display for displaying the result of character recognition input at the input, and

a determining means for determining the result of character recognition displayed on the display, and

wherein the image scanner is allowed to move over the document so as to specify any region to be recognized from among the character data on the document and display a result of character recognition within the specified region on the display so as to enable to check a result of conversion of the scanned character image on the document at hand, and notify the personal computer that the result of conversion is determined by the determining part,

wherein the personal computer is provided with at least one piece of application software and character recognition software for recognizing characters of the image data output from the output of the image scanner, and, when the image data scanned by the image sensor is input, transmits a result of character recognition analyzed by the character recognition software to the image scanner, and, when a notification that the result of conversion is determined is input from the image scanner, allows the determined

character data to input into a position of the application software specified by the mouse.

8. The optical character recognition system according to claim 7,

wherein the personal computer is provided with voice synthesis software, the voice synthesis software, when the character code data of the result of character recognition being input, outputting the character corresponds to the character code data by voice.

9. The optical character recognition system according to claim 7,

wherein the personal computer is provided with voice recognition software, the voice recognition software, when detecting a voice command to correct the result of character recognition, correcting the result of character recognition.

10. A method of inputting data into application software, including word processing software, spreadsheet software, or database software, running on a personal computer comprising the steps of:

transmitting an image data scanned by a image scanner to the personal computer, the image scanner being allowed to move over a document so as to specify any region to be recognized from among the character data on the document,

transmitting appropriate character code data to the image scanner after the personal computer receiving the image data and the image data being recognized by character recognition software running behind the application for inputting data

displaying characters of the character code data on a display after the image scanner receiving the character code data,

notifying a determination of the character code data to the personal computer after determining the displayed characters, and

inputting the character code data into the application software for inputting data after the personal computer receiving the notification that the character code data being determined.

11. The method of inputting data according to claim 10,

wherein the personal computer receives the notification of the character code data of being determined to input the character code data into the application software via program software capable of using 2 byte Asian characters, such as Japanese, under
5 an operating system.

12. The method of inputting data according to claim 10,
wherein image data of the character code data input into the application software is displayed on the personal computer and
10 the character code data can be edited while referring to the image data.